Executive Proclamation
State of South Dakota
Office of the Governor

Whereas, James F. McKeon assumed the position of President and CEO of the Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce in January 1995; and,

Whereas, Jim led the Rapid City Chamber to successful accreditation by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in 1996, and to the distinctive level of a Five Star Accreditation in 2002—one of less than 25 chambers in the United States to attain this goal; and,

Whereas, Jim organized and managed long-term efforts to complete the construction of the Heartland Expressway from Rapid City to Denver, Colorado, the Theodore Roosevelt Expressway from Rapid City to Canada, and promoted the designation of the Great Plains International Trade Corridor connecting the United States with Canada and Mexico; and,

Whereas, Jim successfully organized and sustained a coherent and consistent Black Hills community sense of highway construction priorities and presented them to the South Dakota Department of Transportation; and,

Whereas, Jim initiated the first efforts to organize a Black Hills area-wide assessment of public and private needs and capabilities, known as the Frontiers Forging Our Future—two successful initiatives were the successful retention of Ellsworth Air Force Base and the Sanford Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory; and,

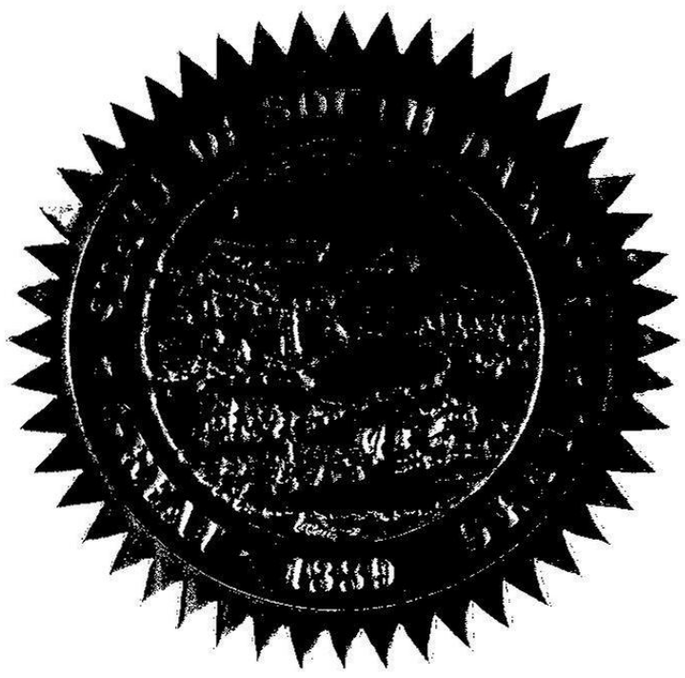
Whereas, Jim led efforts to establish a Rapid City Air Service Task Force, which was successful in increasing the number of major carriers and total passenger capacity while helping to reduce airfare rates; and,

Whereas, Jim will retire as President and CEO of the Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce on December 31, 2007, and he will be recognized by the community on November 20, 2007, for his numerous contributions to the surrounding area, and it is fitting and proper as Governor to make special note of this outstanding South Dakotan on the occasion of his retirement:

Now, Therefore, I, M. Michael Rounds, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim November 20, 2007, as

JIM McKEON DAY

in South Dakota.



In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of November in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Seven.

M. Michael Rounds, Governor

Attest:

Chris Nelson, Secretary of State